

## **Trans-border Comparison of Three Sustainable Cities Programs: Vancouver, Seattle and Oslo**

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Canada and Norway have more active national-level governmental responses Agenda 21 issues than does the United States. Nonetheless, along with Vancouver, BC, and Oslo, Norway, some American Cities, such as Seattle, have initiated serious efforts and programs to address Agenda 21 issues for building sustainable cities. These three cities are all involved seriously in “thinking global and acting local.” This paper compares and contrasts the sustainability program efforts underway in each of these major coastal cities. It explores the priorities each city has chosen and the policy tools, management strategies, methods, practices, stakeholder involvement, and successes thus far that each has achieved. Future urban sustainability goals and their similarities and differences among the three cities are also highlighted. The paper ends with a section on lessons learned and applied.